

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
HOUSTON DIVISION**

JESUS BADILLO, SEAN BRIENT, and  
JULIANE WOLFF,

Plaintiffs,

v.

DIRECT ENERGY, LP

Defendant.

Case No. 4:16-cv-1441

**PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL  
COMPLAINT**

**JURY TRIAL DEMANDED**

JESUS BADILLO, SEAN BRIENT, and JULIANE WOLFF (“Plaintiffs”) bring this action against Defendant DIRECT ENERGY, LP (“Defendant”) to stop Defendant’s practice of making illegal debt collection calls to the telephones of Plaintiffs, and to obtain redress for injuries caused by Defendant’s conduct. Plaintiffs, for their Complaint, allege as follows upon personal knowledge as to themselves and their own acts and experiences, and, as to all other matters, upon information and belief, including investigation conducted by their attorneys.

**INTRODUCTION**

1. Plaintiffs bring this action pursuant to the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. § 227 (the “TCPA”), the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act 15 U.S.C. § 1692, *et seq.* (“FDCPA”), Chapter 302 of the TEX. BUS. & COM. CODE - the Regulation of Telephone Solicitation statute in Texas (“Texas TCPA”), and TEXAS DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICES ACT (“DTPA”).

2. Defendant engages in reckless and aggressive debt collection practices which outright ignore controlling federal and state law, and the rights of the called parties.

3. Defendant made unsolicited calls to Plaintiffs' cellular telephone in violation of the TCPA by using an automatic telephone dialing system ("ATDS") or pre-recorded voice for the purpose of bullying Plaintiffs into paying an allegedly deficient balance that Plaintiffs Badillo and Brient do not even owe. Thus, Defendant continuously called the wrong parties. Furthermore, Defendant called all Plaintiffs after they stated they did not wish to be called again. Defendant should have placed each name on its federally mandated Internal Do-Not-Call List, but failed to do so. Defendant's repeated calls to Plaintiff Wolff also violate the FDCPA, which is a statute Congress passed to prevent harassing, unconscionable, and unfair debt collection practices.

4. Finally, Defendant's conduct violates the Texas TCPA and, in turn, the DTPA. Accordingly, Plaintiffs are entitled to recover actual damages, attorneys' fees, costs of court, expert fees, deposition costs, and treble damages for each and every such violation.

#### **PARTIES**

5. Plaintiff JESUS BADILLO is a natural person and citizen of Houston, Texas.

6. Plaintiff SEAN BRIENT is a natural person and citizen of Katy, Texas.

7. Plaintiff JULIANE WOLFF is a natural person and citizen of San Juan, Texas.

8. Defendant DIRECT ENERGY, LP is a limited partnership organized under the laws of the State of Texas. Defendant maintains its principal office in Houston, Texas, and may be served with process by serving its registered agent, Corporate Creations Network, Inc., 4265 San Felipe #1100, Houston, Texas 77027.

9. Whenever in this complaint it is alleged that Defendant committed any act or omission, it is meant that the Defendant's officers, directors, vice-principals, agents, servants, or employees committed such act or omission and that at the time such act or omission was committed, it was done with the full authorization, ratification or approval of Defendant or was

done in the routine normal course and scope of employment of the Defendant's officers, directors, vice-principals, agents, servants, or employees.

### **JURISDICTION & VENUE**

10. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1331, as this action arises under the TCPA, which is a federal statute.

11. The Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant because it conducts significant business in this District, maintains its principal place of business in this District, and the unlawful conduct alleged in this Complaint occurred in, was directed to, and/or emanated from this District. Furthermore, the exercise of personal jurisdiction over Defendant in this District does not offend traditional notions of fair play or substantial justice. For these same reasons, venue is proper in this District.

### **LEGAL BASIS FOR THE CLAIMS**

#### **The TCPA**

12. Congress enacted the TCPA in 1991 to address certain practices thought to be an invasion of consumer privacy and a risk to public safety. The TCPA and the Federal Communications Commission's ("FCC") implemented rules prohibit: (1) making telemarketing calls using an artificial or prerecorded voice to residential telephones without prior express consent; and (2) making any non-emergency call using an automatic telephone dialing system ("ATDS") or an artificial or prerecorded voice to a wireless telephone number without prior express consent. If the call includes or introduces an advertisement, or constitutes telemarketing, consent must be in writing.<sup>1</sup> Calls that include non-marketing messages require consent, but not

---

<sup>1</sup> Prior express written consent means "an agreement, in writing, bearing the signature of the person called that clearly authorizes the seller to deliver or cause to be delivered to the person called advertisements or telemarketing messages using an automatic telephone dialing system or an artificial or prerecorded voice,

written consent. The TCPA grants consumers a private right of action, with a provision for \$500 or the actual monetary loss in damages for each violation, whichever is greater, and treble damages for each willful or knowing violation, as well as injunctive relief.

13. Since the TCPA's passage in 1991, the FCC has taken multiple actions implementing and interpreting the TCPA, and has issued numerous Declaratory Rulings clarifying specific aspects of the TCPA. The most recent, FCC Omnibus Order of July 10, 2015, (the "Order") provided further protection to consumers by, among other things, clarifying that ATDS is broadly defined, confirming liability attaches to calls made to the wrong number or reassigned number, and clarifying consumers may revoke consent through reasonable methods. *In the Matter of Rules and Regulations Implementing the Tel. Consumer Prot. Act of 1991*, FCC 15-72, 30 F.C.C.R. 7961, (July 10, 2015), available at <https://www.fcc.gov/document/tcpa-omnibus-declaratory-ruling-and-order>. The Order defines an "autodialer" as equipment/software that has the future capacity to dial randomly or sequentially. "In other words, the capacity of an autodialer is not limited to its current configuration but also includes its potential functionalities." The Order clarifies the meaning of "capacity" and that "any call" made using a device with the capacity to serve as an ATDS requires consent under the TCPA, even if the caller is not "actually...using those functionalities to place calls" at the time. *Derby v. AOL, Inc.*, No. 5:15-CV-00452-RMW, 2015 WL 5316403, at \*3 (N.D. Cal. Sept. 11, 2015).

14. The Order also states that calls placed to the wrong number or a reassigned number are made with knowledge of the error after the first call; and consumers may revoke consent through any reasonable method, including orally: "[w]e clarify, however, that callers who make

---

and the telephone number to which the signatory authorizes such advertisements or telemarketing messages to be delivered. 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(f)(8).

calls without knowledge of reassignment and with a reasonable basis to believe that they have valid consent to make the call should be able to initiate one call after reassignment as an additional opportunity to gain actual or constructive knowledge of the reassignment and cease future calls to the new subscriber. If this one additional call does not yield actual knowledge of reassignment, we deem the caller to have constructive knowledge of such;” “[c]onsumers generally may revoke, for example, by way of a consumer-initiated call, directly in response to a call initiated or made by a caller, or at an in-store bill payment location, among other possibilities.”

15. Furthermore, the TCPA established the National Do-Not-Call List, and also mandates all businesses that place calls for marketing purposes maintain an “internal” do-not-call list (“IDNC”). See 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(d). The IDNC is “a list of persons who request not to receive telemarketing calls made by or on behalf of that [seller].” *Id.* The TCPA prohibits a company from calling individuals on its IDNC list or on the IDNC list of a seller on whose behalf the telemarketer calls, even if those individuals’ phone numbers are not on the National Do-Not-Call Registry. *Id.* at § 64.1200(d)(3), (6). Any company, or someone on the company’s behalf, who calls a member of the company IDNC is liable to that person under the TCPA. The called party is then entitled to bring a private action under the TCPA for monetary and injunctive relief.

16. Finally, in 2008, the FCC held that “a creditor on whose behalf an autodialed or prerecorded message call is made to a wireless number bears the responsibility for any violation of the Commission’s rules.” In re Rules and Regulations Implementing the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, Declaratory Ruling on Motion by ACA International for Reconsideration, 23 FCC Rcd. 559, 565, ¶ 10 (Jan. 4, 2008); *Birchmeier v. Caribbean Cruise Line, Inc.*, 2012 WL 7062748 (Dec. 31, 2012).

17. Accordingly, the entity can be liable under the TCPA for a call made on its behalf, even if the entity did not directly place the call. Under those circumstances, the entity is deemed to have initiated the call through the person or entity.

**The FDCPA**

18. In 1978, Congress enacted the FDCPA in response to data showing that abusive collection practices lead to an increase in personal bankruptcy filings, marital instability, loss of employment, and invasion of personal privacy. The FDCPA prohibits false, deceptive, misleading, harassing, abusive and offensive conduct during collection of consumer debts. *See* 15 U.S.C. § 1692a, *et seq.* In particular, the FDCPA prohibits, *inter alia*, the following practices:

- Discussing debt with a third party. 15 U.S.C. § 1692b(2)
- Contacting a third party more than one time for the purpose of obtaining debtor's location information. 15 U.S.C. § 1692d(1)
- Calling debtor's workplace if debtor notified debt collector that such calls are unwanted. 15 U.S.C. § 1692c(a)(3)
- Calling debtor before the hours of 8 a.m. or 9 p.m. 15 U.S.C. § 1692c(a)(1)
- The collector from threatening violence or the use of criminal activity towards the consumer or property. 15 U.S.C. § 1692d(1)
- The collector from using obscene or profane language. 15 U.S.C. § 1692d(2)
- The collector from engaging in harassing, abusive and/or oppressive conduct. 15 U.S.C. § 1692d
- The collector from making false, deceptive, or misleading statements. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e, e(10)

- The collector from stating or implying that non-payment will result in arrest or criminal prosecution. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(4)
- The collector from threatening suit, garnishment, or seizure of property without the legal ability to do the same. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(5)
- The collector from failing to identify itself and the purpose of the call. 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(11)

19. The FDCPA further expressly provides a private right of action to anyone who receives prohibited collection calls. A prevailing plaintiff under the FDCPA is entitled to recovery of actual damages (including mental anguish), a statutory penalty of \$1,000, plus costs and attorneys' fees. 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a).

#### **The Texas TCPA & DTPA**

20. In 1978, Chapter 302 of the TEX. BUS. & COM. CODE is the Regulation of Telephone Solicitation statute in Texas ("Texas TCPA"). A violation of the Texas TCPA is also a violation of the TEXAS DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICES ACT ("DTPA") by law:

(a) A violation of this chapter is a false, misleading, or deceptive act or practice under Subchapter E, Chapter 17 (DTPA).

(b) A public or private right or remedy prescribed by Subchapter E, Chapter 17 (DTPA), may be used to enforce this chapter.

TEX. BUS. & COM. CODE § 302.303; *see also* TEX. BUS. & COM. CODE § 17.50(h) (a plaintiff can maintain a DTPA suit based on the violation of other consumer-protection statutes that have been incorporated into the DTPA). The Texas TCPA shall be liberally construed and applied to promote its underlying purpose to protect persons against false, misleading, or deceptive practices in the telephone solicitation business. TEX. BUS. & COM. CODE § 302.003.

19. The Texas TCPA also provides much harsher civil penalties than the federal TCPA:

- (a) A person who violates this chapter is subject to a civil penalty of not more than **\$5,000 for each violation.**

- 
- (d) The party bringing the action also is entitled to recover **all reasonable costs of prosecuting the action, including court costs and investigation costs, deposition expenses, witness fees, and attorney's fees.**

TEX. BUS. & COM. CODE § 302.302 (emphasis added). The plaintiff can recover additional damages of **up to three times the amount of economic and mental anguish damages** for a DTPA claim. TEX. BUS. & COM. CODE § 17.50(b)(1) (emphasis added). Economic damages can be trebled if the defendant knowingly or intentionally violated the DTPA. *Id.*; *Bossier Chrysler-Dodge II, Inc. v. Riley*, 221 S.W.3d 749, 759 (Tex. App.—Waco 2007, pet denied). Mental-anguish damages can be trebled if the defendant acted intentionally. TEX. BUS. & COM. CODE § 17.50(b)(1).

#### **FACTS SPECIFIC TO PLAINTIFF JESUS BADILLO**

21. Beginning around December of 2015, Badillo began to receive calls from the number 877-866-6601, which is associated with Defendant. At the time Badillo filed this lawsuit, he had received at least 17 calls from Defendant, sometimes multiple calls in a single day.

22. Badillo received all calls described above on his cellular telephone assigned a number ending in 8200.

23. Defendant and/or third parties on Defendant's behalf, placed all the calls described above using an ATDS, as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 227(a)(1) without first obtaining Badillo's prior express written consent.

24. Badillo answered several of these calls and interacted with the caller's live representative after being transferred by the dialing system.

25. When Badillo answered the calls, there was a momentary pause ("dead air") before Defendant's live representative engaged on the other end of the line.



26. Defendant's representatives always asked for another individual (female), not Badillo.

27. Badillo repeatedly told Defendant that they had the wrong party. Yet, Defendant continued to call.

28. Badillo never provided Defendant consent to call him for any purpose.

29. At the time of the calls, Badillo did not have a business relationship with Defendant.

30. Badillo felt the calls were an invasion of privacy and wanted Defendant to stop calling. Defendant ignored Badillo's multiple requests and continued to call him.

31. Based on the circumstances of the calls (e.g. dead air, large volume of calls, repeated calls after protest), Badillo believed Defendant called his cellular telephone using an ATDS that mechanically selected his number from a computer database.

32. On information and belief, Defendant's ATDS called Badillo on every occasion.

33. The telephone number Defendant called was assigned to a cellular telephone service for which usage minutes accumulate for incoming calls pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1).

34. Badillo is the regular carrier and exclusive user of the cellular telephone assigned the number ending in 8200.

35. Defendant's calls constituted calls that were not for emergency purposes as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A)(i).

36. Badillo did not provide Defendant with prior express written consent to place calls to his cellular telephone utilizing an ATDS or artificial or pre-recorded voice, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227 (b)(1)(A) and 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(a)(3).

37. All calls Defendant made to Badillo violate 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1).

**FACTS SPECIFIC TO PLAINTIFF SEAN BRIENT**

38. Beginning around January 2016, Brient began to receive calls from the numbers 877-866-6601, which is associated with Defendant. Since that time, Brient has received at least 10 calls from Defendant.

39. Brient received all calls described above on his cellular telephone assigned a number ending in 6347.

40. Defendant and/or third parties on Defendant's behalf, placed all the calls described above using an ATDS, as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 227(a)(1) without first obtaining Brient's prior express written consent.

41. When Brient answered the calls, there was "silence first" before Defendant's live representative engaged on the other end of the line.

42. Defendant's representatives always asked for a woman, not Brient

43. Brient repeatedly told Defendant that they had the wrong party. Yet, Defendant continued to call.

44. Brient never provided Defendant consent to call him for any purpose.

45. At the time of the calls, Brient did not have a business relationship with Defendant.

46. Brient felt the calls were an invasion of his privacy and wanted Defendant to stop calling. Defendant ignored Brient's multiple requests and continued to call him.

47. Based on the circumstances of the calls (e.g. dead air, large volume of calls), Brient believed Defendant called him cellular telephone using an ATDS that mechanically selected his number from a computer database.

48. On information and belief, Defendant's ATDS called Brient on every occasion.

49. The telephone number Defendant called was assigned to a cellular telephone service for which usage minutes accumulate when calls are placed to that number.

50. Brient is the regular carrier and exclusive user of the cellular telephone assigned the number ending in 6347.

51. Defendant's calls constituted calls that were not for emergency purposes as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A)(i).

52. Brient did not provide Defendant with prior express written consent to place calls to his cellular telephone utilizing an ATDS or artificial or pre-recorded voice, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227 (b)(1)(A) and 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(a)(3).

53. All calls Defendant made to Brient violate 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1).

**FACTS SPECIFIC TO PLAINTIFF JULIANE WOLFF**

54. Beginning around June 2015, Wolff began to receive calls from the number 877-866-6601, which is associated with Defendant. Since that time, Smith has received at least 100 calls from Defendant.

55. Wolff received all calls described above on her cellular telephone assigned a number ending in 5251.

56. Defendant and/or third parties on Defendant's behalf, placed all the calls described above using an ATDS, as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 227(a)(1).

57. When Wolff answered the calls, she experienced a pause for several seconds on the other end of the line before Defendant's live representative engaged her.

58. The purpose of Defendant's calls was to collect a past due debt.

59. Defendant's representatives' behavior was harassing and abusive. Wolff explained that she was sick and demanded Defendant stop calling her cell phone.

60. Defendant told Wolff they could not stop the calls because they were “automated.”

61. Wolff felt the calls were an invasion of her privacy and wanted Defendant to stop calling. Defendant ignored Wolff’s requests to further its own agenda: threaten and harass Plaintiff until she agreed to pay an alleged deficient balance.

62. Defendant’s repeated calls caused Wolff mental anguish.

63. Based on the circumstances of the calls – including, but not limited to, the multiple calls, Wolff was not immediately engaged by a live person (“dead air”) – Wolff believed Defendant called her cellular telephone using an ATDS that mechanically selected her number from a computer database.

64. On information and belief, Defendant’s ATDS called Wolff on every occasion.

65. The telephone number Defendant called was assigned to a cellular telephone service for which she loses minutes she paid for pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1).

66. Wolff is the regular carrier and exclusive user of the cellular telephone assigned the number ending in 5251.

67. Defendant’s calls constituted calls that were not for emergency purposes as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1(A)(i).

68. Wolff clearly and unequivocally withdrew any consent she may have provided Defendant to call her on her cellular telephone.

69. Wolff is a consumer who purchased services from Defendant. Accordingly, the debt allegedly owed to Defendant is a consumer debt.

70. On information and belief, Defendant dedicates a substantial portion of its business to debt collection. Defendant regularly engages in the practice of collecting debts.

71. All calls Defendant made to Wolff violate 47 U.S.C. § 227, and 15 U.S.C. § 1692.

**FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**ALL PLAINTIFFS**  
**(VIOLATION OF THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT,  
47 U.S.C. § 227, *ET SEQ.*)**

72. Plaintiffs hereby incorporate by reference and re-allege each and every allegation set forth in each and every preceding paragraph of this Complaint, as though fully set forth herein.

73. The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendant constitute numerous and multiple violations of the TCPA, including but not limited to each and every one of the above cited provisions of 47 U.S.C. § 227, *et seq.* and 47 C.F.R. §64.1200, *et seq.*

74. As a result of Defendant's violations of 47 U.S.C. § 227, *et seq.*, and 47 C.F.R. §64.1200, *et seq.*, Plaintiffs are entitled to an award of \$500.00 in statutory damages, for each and every violation, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B).

75. Plaintiffs are also entitled to and seek injunctive relief prohibiting such conduct in the future.

**SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**ALL PLAINTIFFS**  
**(KNOWING AND/OR WILLFUL VIOLATION OF  
THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT, 47 U.S.C. § 227, *ET SEQ.*)**

76. Plaintiffs hereby incorporate by reference and re-allege each and every allegation set forth in each and every preceding paragraph of this Complaint, as though fully set forth herein.

77. The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendant constitute numerous and multiple knowing and/or willful violations of the TCPA, including but not limited to each and every one of the above cited provisions of 47 U.S.C. § 227, *et seq.* and 47 C.F.R. §64.1200, *et seq.*

78. As a result of Defendant's violations of 47 U.S.C. § 227, *et seq.*, and 47 C.F.R. §64.1200, *et seq.* Plaintiffs are entitled to an award of \$1,500.00 in statutory damages, for each and every violation, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B) and 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(C).

79. Plaintiffs are also entitled to and seek injunctive relief prohibiting such conduct in the future.

**THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**PLAINTIFF WOLFF**  
**(VIOLATION OF THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 *ET SEQ.*)**

81. Plaintiff Wolff hereby incorporates by reference and re-alleges each and every allegation set forth in each and every preceding paragraph of this Complaint, as though fully set forth herein.

82. The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendant constitute numerous and multiple violations of the FDCPA, including but not limited to each and every one of the above cited provisions of 15 U.S.C. § 1692d(2), 15 U.S.C. § 1692d, and 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(5).

83. As a result of Defendant's violations of the FDCPA, Plaintiff Wolff is entitled to an award of \$1,000.00 in statutory damages, for each and every violation, and actual damages, including mental anguish.

**FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**ALL PLAINTIFFS**  
**(VIOLATION OF THE TEXAS REGULATION OF TELEPHONE SOLICITATIONS**  
**Chapter 302 of the TEX. BUS. & COM. CODE)**

84. Plaintiffs hereby incorporate by reference and re-allege each and every allegation set forth in each and every preceding paragraph of this Complaint, as though fully set forth herein.

85. The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendant constitute numerous and multiple violations of the Texas TCPA, including but not limited to each and every one of the provisions of Chapter 302 of the TEX. BUS. & COM. CODE.

86. As a result of Defendant's violations of the Texas TCPA, Plaintiffs are entitled to an award of statutory damages in the amount of \$5,000, for each and every violation, and actual damages including mental anguish, all reasonable costs of prosecuting the action, including court

costs and investigation costs, deposition expenses, witness fees, and attorney's fees.

**FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**ALL PLAINTIFFS**  
**(VIOLATION OF THE TEXAS DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICES ACT**  
**Chapter 17 of the TEX. BUS. & COM. CODE)**

87. Plaintiffs hereby incorporate by reference and re-allege each and every allegation set forth in each and every preceding paragraph of this Complaint, as though fully set forth herein.

88. The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendant constitute numerous and multiple violations of the Texas TCPA, which automatically results in a violation of the DTPA.

89. A violation of the Texas TCPA is also a violation of the TEXAS DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICES ACT ("DTPA") by law:

“(a) A violation of this chapter is a false, misleading, or deceptive act or practice under Subchapter E, Chapter 17 (DTPA).

(b) A public or private right or remedy prescribed by Subchapter E, Chapter 17 (DTPA), may be used to enforce this chapter.”

TEX. BUS. & COM. CODE § 302.303; *see also* TEX. BUS. & COM. CODE § 17.50(h) (a plaintiff can maintain a DTPA suit based on the violation of other consumer-protection statutes that have been incorporated into the DTPA).

89. As a result of Defendant's violations of the DTPA, Plaintiffs are entitled to an award of actual damages, treble damages for the Texas TCPA violations (\$15,000 per violation), costs of court, and attorney's fees.

**ATTORNEY'S FEES**

90. Each and every allegation contained in the foregoing paragraphs is re-alleged as if fully rewritten herein.

91. Plaintiff is entitled to recover reasonable attorney fees and request the attorneys' fees be awarded.

### **JURY DEMAND**

92. Plaintiff, individually and on behalf of the Plaintiff Class, demand a jury trial on all issues triable to a jury.

### **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for relief as follows:

- An award of \$500.00 in statutory damages, for each and every negligent violation, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227, *et seq.*;
- An award of \$1,500.00 in statutory damages, for each and every willful and/or knowing violation, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227, *et seq.*;
- An award of \$1,000.00 in statutory damages, for each and every violation, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692, *et seq.*;
- An award of \$5,000.00 in statutory damages, for each and every violation, pursuant to Chapter 302 of the Texas Business & Commerce Code, *et seq.*;
- Actual damages, including mental anguish.
- An award of \$15,000.00 in statutory damages, for each and every violation, pursuant to Chapter 17 of the Texas Business & Commerce Code, *et seq.*;
- Preliminary and permanent injunctive relief enjoining Defendant, its agents, servants and employees, and all persons acting in concert with them, from engaging in, and continuing to engage in, the unlawful calls made with automated dialing systems to cellular phones, and enjoining Defendant from



engaging in abusive and oppressive collection practices as outlined in this Complaint.

- Attorneys' fees, costs and any and all other relief deemed just and proper.

Dated: May 23, 2016

Respectfully Submitted,

**HUGHES ELLZEY, LLP**

/s/ W. Craft Hughes

W. Craft Hughes  
Attorney-in-charge  
Texas Bar No. 24046123  
S.D. Tex. ID No. 566470  
[craft@hughesellzey.com](mailto:craft@hughesellzey.com)  
Jarrett L. Ellzey  
Texas Bar No. 24040864  
S.D. Tex. ID No. 37369  
[jarrett@hughesellzey.com](mailto:jarrett@hughesellzey.com)  
2700 Post Oak Blvd., Ste. 1120  
Galleria Tower I  
Houston, TX 77056  
Phone: (713) 554-2377  
Fax: (888) 995-3335

OF COUNSEL:

Bryant Fitts  
Texas Bar No. 24040904  
[bfitts@fittslawfirm.com](mailto:bfitts@fittslawfirm.com)  
**Fitts Law Firm, PLLC**  
2700 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 1120  
Houston, Texas 77056  
Phone (713) 871-1670  
Fax (713) 583-1492

**ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF**